

TOTAL FORCE: FLEET FORCES COMMAND PARTNERING WITH NAVAL RESERVE FORCE

Fleet Forces Command
Public Affairs

NORFOLK—The Chief of Naval Operations recently assigned the Commander, Naval Reserve Force and the Commander, Naval Reserve Forces Command to additional duties reporting to the Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, ADM William Fallon, in an effort to more closely align its Reserve and active forces and improve combat efficiency and effectiveness. This action will strengthen ties between the Navy’s active and Reserve forces and is the first step in an initiative that seeks to first better define, and subsequently better construct, a cohesive “Total Force” team that can more effectively satisfy the Navy’s operational requirements.

The end state of this initiative will be a more integrated total force in which Naval Reserve capabilities are tied directly to active units in support of Sea Power 21 mission capabilities.

“The first step in this initiative is to have the active component define exactly what requirements they have for Reserve forces. The second step is going to be to structure the Reserve force to meet that requirement. The third step is having the active component take ownership of the training and readiness state of this new Reserve force. This has never occurred before,” said RADM David Anderson, recently appointed U.S. Fleet Forces Command director of force integration.

Coordination has already begun with a complete zero-based review of Naval Reserve capabilities. Active duty commands have already been tasked to identify their Reserve requirements and to describe potential new capabilities they need from the Reserves to more readily meet their mission requirements.

“We’re conducting a detailed analysis of existing and desired Reserve capabilities to shape our Reserve force to integrate seamlessly with the active duty. This will help us ensure we are making the best use of our manpower and funding for

both the Navy and DoD. As a matter of fact, this zero-based review will help us get our arms around training and readiness requirements and identify any capability gaps in our active force that the Reserves may be able to better fill,” said Anderson.

Based on the findings, U.S. Fleet Forces Command will work with principal Navy organizations to affix how Reserve forces can better integrate with the active component. Eventually, by matching present capabilities to those projected as most relevant, the Navy will shape the Reserve force to better complement its active fighting force.

“Let’s face it, Total Force—the balance between our active and Reserve components—is vital to our smaller Navy, and to our nation’s Global War on Terrorism. Aligning our Reserve Force is more critical now than ever before in order to keep our Navy the most capable in the world,” said Anderson.



Illustration by Tasheka Arceneaux

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PRESORT
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Photo by PH1 Michael D. Kennedy

SAN DIEGO—A UH-3H Sea King helicopter, assigned to the Golden Gators of Helicopter Combat Support Squadron 85 (HC-85), drops a load of water during a practice run on a certification flight which allowed the aircraft to assist in mutual efforts fighting wildfires raging throughout Southern California. The bucket can hold 324 gallons of water, weighing 2,800 lbs.

HC-85 fights San Diego fires

JO1(SW) Gregory S. Cleghorne
NAR San Diego Public Affairs

NAVAL AIR STATION, NORTH ISLAND, Calif.—Four Helicopter Combat Support Squadron 85 (HC-85) UH-3H Sea King helicopters took to the skies over San Diego to combat San Diego’s worst wildfires on record. Air crews of 16 Selected Reservists and Full Time Support Sailors man the squadron’s four helicopters.

When CDR Jim Ellinger Jr., HC-85 commanding officer, became aware of the severity of the fires, he recalled the HC-85 helicopters from their ready alert mission at Monterey, Calif., in support of fighter aircraft from NAS Lemoore, Calif. When the crews aren’t training for anti-submarine warfare or rescue, they train as aerial firefighters. Ellinger briefed his staff who prepared themselves and their equipment to fight the San Diego wildfires. The skies over North Island’s airstrips were dark with smoke and falling ash creating a particular hazard to civilian and military aircraft.

“FOD,” said AD2(AW/NAC) David Smith. “Foreign Object Damage (FOD), such as ash, can damage the fuel and oil systems, clog filters and cause the engine and oil pumps to overheat or not function at all. We take great measures to make sure that doesn’t happen, especially when we’re flying.”

The squadron’s concern wasn’t just for their equipment. Like many service members and civilians in the area, several HC-85 Sailors were also evacuated from their homes because of approaching fires.

“Those are our houses burning also,” Ellinger said. “It’s our community, too. One of our corpsman and our command master chief don’t know if their houses have burned down. We have an interest in putting out these fires.”

Sea Kings can carry about 2,800 pounds or 324 gallons of water for each firefighting run they make.

“That’s a lot of water to put on a fire,” Ellinger said. “It’s very effective. We can put a fire out if we’re given a chance.”

On Oct. 28, the squadron flew an orientation mission, attended training and safety briefings, took off and dumped water on hot spots around San Diego, and then returned to the staging area at Montgomery Field. More Navy flight crews are currently being trained.

“We have four aircraft at Montgomery Field with more air crews getting qualified to fight fires in the city,” Ellinger said during the fires.

“It’s unfortunate that this [wildfire] happened,” Smith said. “But we learned from it. It made us appreciate each other more because we came together as a family and we took care of each other.”

See more firefighting efforts on page 6

LEADERSHIP

NAVAL RESERVE
This is who we are

As members of the U.S. Naval Reserve Force, we are patriots serving our country, committed and dedicated to our nation's defense:

- We bring our best military and civilian experience to the Navy-Marine Corps Team.
- We are role models in our communities.
- We build leaders.

Our identity as Naval Reservists within the Navy-Marine Corps Team defines and enhances our allegiance to the Navy core values of honor, courage and commitment, and to the Sailor's Creed.

The Uniform Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act (USERRA) provides for employment protection under federal law for uniformed service members who serve their country. The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) is an organization that helps employers and military personnel understand federal law, as it applies to both of them. When the need arises, ESGR can provide an ombudsman to assist military personnel with problems that may occur between them and their employer, specifically when related to their participation in their military obligation. These are important federal laws and a vital support program with which we all should become familiar.

Communication is a crucial factor for success between military personnel and their civilian employers. As Sailors, we are responsible for keeping our employers aware of upcoming and planned assignments. This must be done as early as possible to allow the employer to make the arrangements they need. Equally important is the responsibility of communicating with our employers upon return from a military assignment. I have received several questions from Sailors asking, "When should I contact my employer when finishing a military assignment?" For service less than 31 days you are required to return to work "not later than the beginning of the first regularly scheduled work period on the first full calendar day following the completion of the period of service and the expiration of eight hours after a period, allowing for the safe transportation of the person from the place of service to the person's residence." In other words, you should return to work immediately, allowing for time off for travel if necessary. If the period of service was 31-180 days, you are required to submit an application for reemployment within 14 days after the end of the period of service. If the period of service was 181 days or more, you must submit the application for reemployment within 90 days. The application for reemployment is nothing more than a letter stating a request for reemployment in that company. A sample letter is provided on the ESGR Web page. Go to www.esgr.com.

Many employers have gone above and beyond in supporting our military members. ESGR has several ways to help your employer understand what you are doing as you perform your military duties. ESGR can sponsor "Bosslifts" that transport your employer and supervisor to military training sites where they directly observe Reserve members in action. ESGR also has a recognition program for employers. The Reservist submits their employer for recognition of their outstanding support for their Reserve and guard employees. Depending on the level of support given, employers may be entitled to receive the Employer Support Freedom Award given by the Secretary of Defense. ESGR works for our Reserve personnel and we should be familiar with the services they provide. If you have questions about your rights and those of your employers, check out the ESGR Web page for many answers. See www.esgr.com.

THOMAS W. MOBLEY
Force Master Chief, U.S. Naval Reserve

COMMANDER'S VIEW



VADM John G. Cotton
Commander,
Naval Reserve Force

It has been an incredible first month as your champion and representative in the Pentagon. Each and every day I learn something new and incredible about our amazing Naval Reserve Force, and most importantly, about our talented and dedicated Reservists. We ask each of you at least monthly to balance your three priorities in life...family, job and Navy commitment. For our Full Time Support (FTS) personnel, their job is the Navy, but for drilling Reservists, when one stops the other starts, at least once a month.

Family always comes first, but when duty calls, we often prioritize around the employer first. After the operational support of the Navy is complete, whether on drills or orders, we return to the normal routine and proper priorities back at home. Month after month, year after year, the family usually gets used to our passion to serve, and lately, with the increased utilization of all Reserve components, our reliable and supportive employers are starting to ask questions...how much longer, how many days, how often, why you?

The topic of the month is dedicated to the employers that support our Reservists and especially the National Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) organization. In mid-November, I was proud and privileged to represent you at ESGR ceremonies here in Washington, at a large evening reception and again the next day at the White House with President Bush (see "President," page 10), to honor nine outstanding employers. If you would like to recognize your employer with an individual award or nominate them for next year's national award, please visit the ESGR Web site, www.esgr.org.

ESGR has 54 committees in each of the states, Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands, and has handled tens of thousands of requests from Reservists and employers for assistance with pay and benefits issues, as well as reemployment after mobilization. They are to be commended for their dedication to our Guard and Reserve forces, and are always there when needed. Please contact your commanding officer, Reserve center or the ESGR with any questions you have about employer support as well as your rights and responsibilities as a Reservist.

At our recent change of command ceremony, Chief of Naval Operations, ADM Vern Clark, promised us many changes. This promise quickly came true at headquarters in New Orleans, where RADM John Debbout, Commander, Naval Reserve Forces Command (CNRFC), now heads one large staff after aligning all personnel from

the former tri-staff. RADM Dan Kloeppel remains the Commander, Naval Air Force Reserve (CNAFR), but is also the Vice Commander CNRFC, as well as being assigned additional duty (ADDU) to VADM Mike Malone, Commander, Naval Air Force (CNAF) in San Diego.

Naval Reserve Force capabilities are being aligned with the Navy so that Total Force requirements can be determined by the Commander, Fleet Forces Command (CFFC), ADM Bill Fallon, in Norfolk, Va.. To ensure that this happens quickly and accurately, both RADM Debbout and I are ADDU to CFFC.

In the last month, during our weekly phone calls and visits to the drill decks around the country, we contacted a surprised OSSN Erica Woodson in Hawaii, as she was getting measured to run the Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA). I told her that I had run the PFA that same day with our Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) command, and she replied that she somehow thought that we did not have to do it. She balances taking 20 credits at a local college while raising two children and supporting her active-duty Navy husband, and did 45 days active duty last year. In Chicago, ITSN Alletrius Ford drove us to the REDCOM Mid-West command conference and told us that she plans to apply for the Seaman to Admiral program. We called a very motivated YN1 Calum McDonald in Helena, Mont., who said that he has enjoyed every tour during his 17 years of Navy service, especially his two tours of sea duty. In San Antonio, DC2 Brad Phelan and BM1 Roger Rodriguez drove us to and from the annual American Medical Society of the United States Medical Convention. DC2 Phelan is a proud father of two and is happy in his first Reserve center as a new FTS. BM1 Rodriguez has been an active-duty USN Sailor for 15 years, having recently served in Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 15 (HM-15), and really enjoys the experienced Reservists in San Antonio. He is most proud that eight of 12 SELRES BM's eligible to be advanced did so in the latest cycle.

During each conversation with these energetic Sailors, we discussed their careers, plans, expectations, and reviewed the vision and mission of the Navy and its Naval Reserve Force. All agreed that we truly are one Navy, that there should only be Navy requirements, and that we exist to support the fleet, ready and fully integrated. We'll be calling and visiting with others every week and look forward to telling their stories in future columns.

Wherever they are, our busy FTS and drilling Reserve personnel should strive to do everything they can to enable each other and to provide as much operational support as possible to the fleet. I know that your command will assist you with your strong desire to serve and make a difference.

JOHN G. COTTON
Vice Admiral, U.S. Naval Reserve



Photo by QM1 Jim Dier
CONNEAUT, Ohio—Looking across the bow ramp of Landing Craft Utility 1680 (LCU-1680), Naval Reservists come aboard in preparation to assault the Lake Erie beach in Conneaut, Ohio. Personnel from Assault Craft Unit 2 (ACU-2) detachments in Cleveland and Buffalo, N.Y., participated in the annual D-Day reenactment. LCU-1680 and the smaller assault Landing Craft Mechanized 8 (LCM-8) are homeported at Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center Buffalo and are used to train and qualify Naval Reservists to operate amphibious landing craft. "This is a great opportunity we receive each year," said BMC(SW) Keith D. Threlkel of NMCRC Buffalo, "to operate with our sister unit to beach and retract the craft under simulated hot beach conditions."



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Contributors may send news and images by e-mail to navresfor_tnr@navy.mil, by fax to: (504) 678-5049 or DSN 678-5049, or by mail to: The Naval Reservist, COMNAVRESFOR (NOOP), 4400 Dauphine Street, New Orleans, LA 70146-5046. Telephone inquiries should be made to (504) 678-6058 or DSN 678-6058.

The Naval Reservist seeks action photos of Naval Reservists (minimum 300 dpi digitals or glossy prints) that tell a story of Reserve training or support to the fleet. Please provide full identification of all individuals in the photograph to include their respective rate, rank and command. Also include the name and rank of the individual taking the photograph. Photos should also include a visual information record identification number or VIRIN. Details about VIRINs are available online: www.mediacen.navy.mil/vi/virin.htm. Submissions should be received three weeks prior to publication month (i.e., January 10 for consideration for the February issue). Material will not be returned.

NEWS ONLINE

The Naval Reservist and the Naval Reserve News Service [electronic wire service] current and past issues can be accessed online at <http://reserves.navy.mil>.

Naval Reserve NewsStand, a Web site featuring Naval Reserve news and photos, plus links to Navy fleet pages, can be viewed at www.news.navy.mil/local/nrf.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Selected Reservists with address changes need to provide updates to their database diary entry (via their unit commanding officer) to Full Time Support personnel at local Naval Reserve Activities. Individuals who are not Selected Reservists and need to change their address should mail their request, along with a copy of their mailing label, to "The Naval Reservist."

LEADING CHANGE

Thomas Jefferson and the ESGR

Thomas Jefferson, while making a point to Congress, declared that the American military stands on the shoulders of American commerce. He explained that from the farmer to the shopkeeper to the banker and to the shipping magnate, each is a cog in the machinery of might because of the "fiscal means and primed citizens" they collectively provide. As such, Jefferson regarded the American entrepreneur as a true patriot.

Little has changed since Jefferson spoke those words. American industry still provides the funds and, many times, the manpower that sustain America's military. Commander, Naval Reserve Force and his entire Executive Steering Committee (ESC) honor Jefferson's wisdom through its hard work to ensure a strong bond between our Naval Reservists and the employers who sacrifice each time a Reservist is utilized—to any degree—in defense of America.

The ESC has a two-fold approach

in supporting and recognizing employers. First, the ESC identifies employers as major shareholders. Part of the ESC's public affairs plan is keeping shareholders informed and ensuring that shareholder concerns are taken into account as the ESC makes critical decisions. Second, the ESC collaborates with the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) in supporting programs that distinguish outstanding employers. The ESC recognizes that good employers are true patriots who deserve a "mark of respect" for their selfless contributions.

If you have a great employer who supports you as you meet your Reserve commitments, the ESC challenges you to visit the ESGR Web site (www.esgr.org) and nominate him or her by filling out the "My Boss is a Hero" form.

If you have questions or comments, send an e-mail to jroberts@pic.edu. —Capt. Jean Roberts, COMNAVRESFOR ESC Public Affairs Officer



Photo by PH2 Aaron Peterson

LITTLE CREEK, Va.—A Naval Reservist stands at the ready in defense from attackers from his position near the front gate of his camp during exercise DELMAR '03. The exercise afforded Naval Reservists training in small unit fighting tactics as well as foot and vehicular patrols.

New Thrift Savings Plan open season begins

Chief of Naval Personnel
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON—Sailors interested in contributing to the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) can sign up now through Dec. 31. Those already enrolled can increase their contributions up to the allowable level.

TSP works much like a civilian 401(k) savings plan, where pre-tax dollars are invested to provide retirement monies for Sailors. Taxes are deferred on TSP contributions, meaning no federal (and in most cases, state) income taxes are paid on contributions or earnings until the money is withdrawn, usually at retirement when many are in a lower tax bracket.

Contributions to TSP can range from as little as one percent to eight percent of basic pay in 2003. Bonus, special or incentive pay may also be contributed; up to the \$12,000 IRS tax limit permitted this year. For those serving in a combat zone, the current ceiling for contributions is \$40,000. Basic pay contribution limits increase through 2006 when TSP contributions will be limited only by IRS rules.

TSP investments may be directed to any of five different funds, which vary in risk and investment mixture. The five funds are: government securities investment (G fund), fixed income investment, common stock index investment, small capitalization stock index investment and international stock index investment.

Contributions are initially directed to the G fund. Sailors can then redirect their investment once the account is active.

Sailors can transfer any amount of money into the TSP from certain qualified retirement savings plans in which they are already invested.

TSP account balances are transferable to an eligible retirement plan if a Sailor leaves the service. This option makes TSP an attractive investment whether someone serves four or 30 years.

For more information on TSP, click on <http://www.tsp.gov>

MOBILIZATION UPDATE

As of Nov. 19, 1,751 Naval Reservists are serving on active duty in support of the partial mobilization. The total number currently on active duty in support of the partial mobilization for all components of the National Guard and Reserve is 164,732, including both units and individual augmentees.

A cumulative roster of all National Guard and Reserve who are currently on active duty can be found at: www.defenselink.mil/news/Nov2003/d20031119ngr.pdf.

WHAT'S NEW

National Call to Service program announced

WASHINGTON—Oct. 1, the Navy began offering a new short-term enlistment program aimed at expanding the opportunities for all Americans to serve in the United States Navy.

Known as the National Call to Service (NCS), the program allows new enlistees to serve 15 months of active duty after their initial training is complete. Another 24 months as a drilling Reservist or on active duty is required after the initial 15 month enlistment.

—Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

EW and CTT ratings become one

CORY STATION, Fla.—In an effort to leverage the strength of two key intelligence ratings, while streamlining the collection and processing training pipeline, the Electronic Warfare Technician (EW) rating recently merged with Cryptologic Technician - Technical (CTT). Conversion of all EWs to the CTT designator is already underway, creating an elite community of about 3,000 technicians.

—LCDR Gary Kirchner, Naval Personnel Development Command Public Affairs

Signalman rating to be disestablished

WASHINGTON—In another move to better balance the skill mix in the fleet and more efficiently meet readiness requirements, the Navy announced plans to disestablish the Signalman (SM) rating over the course of the next year.

The visual signaling competency of the SM rating will become part of the Quartermaster (QM) rating, consolidating skill sets by aligning all visual communication skills into one rating.

Approximately 10 percent of SM-rated Sailors will be converted to QM. The rest will be offered the opportunity to convert into other ratings.

The schedule for SM advancement exams and selection boards over the next year is as follows:

- January 2004—Final E-7 (Active) Exam
- February 2004—Final E-7 (Reserve) Exam
- March 2004—Final E-8/9 Selection Board
- May 2004—Final E-7 (Reserve) Selection Board
- July 2004—Final E-7 (Active) Selection Board
- August 2004—Final E-4/5/6 (Reserve) Exams
- September 2004—Final E-4/5/6 (Active) Exams

—Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs



Photo by PH3 Mark Gleason

NEW ORLEANS—AT3 John J. Spence demonstrates to AE3 Carol O. Carriere proper Auxiliary Power Unit (APU) operations on a P-3C Orion. The APU makes the P-3 a self-sufficient aircraft. Spence is from Lenexa, Kan., and Carriere, from Folsom, La. Both are attached to Patrol Squadron 94 (VP-94) "Crawfishers" at NAS JRB New Orleans.



Photo by PH2 Aaron Peterson

LITTLE CREEK, Va.—A Naval Reservist keeps a watchful eye as part of Exercise DELMAR '03. The exercise, conducted in Little Creek, Va., included Naval Reservists from 22 units assigned to Commander, Naval Beach Group 2.

DFAS Web site offers electronic W-2s

DFAS News Release

ARLINGTON, Va.—All current myPay military users and Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) civilian employees who request or already have a myPay Personal Identification Number (PIN), and access myPay, will now automatically receive an electronic W-2.

The electronic method is now the primary means of delivery for all DFAS civilians and military users with a customized myPay PIN.

"This is an opportunity for our customers to better manage their pay information," said Dennis Eicher, director for electronic commerce, military and civilian pay services at DFAS. "We are providing myPay customers access to their tax and pay preferences online. We also know some individuals would rather have a hard copy statement, so we are giving them that choice."

The online version, complete with printing instructions, is 100 percent compatible for all tax purposes

"This is an opportunity for our customers to better manage their pay information"

and allows users to print as many copies as they need without having to depend on saving a hard copy. A save button is also available to allow individuals to save their W-2s to disk.

To ensure customers who are affected receive either an electronic or hard copy W-2, there will be a "no change" period from Dec. 1 through Jan. 31. During this period users will not be allowed to change their W-2 print election on myPay, but may request a paper W-2 by contacting their local financial services activity.

To select the hard copy W-2, go to <https://mypay.dfas.mil>. Under Taxes, select "Turn on/off Hardcopy of W-2." Once this option is selected, carefully read the various questions posed. The user will be given the opportunity to select "hard copy." In doing so, the user has elected to receive a hard copy by mail and will also still be able to see the W-2 electronically.

Retired military service members and annuitants, as well as civilians outside of DFAS, will continue to receive their tax statements or 1099 statements by mail. No action is required.

Corrections:

"The Naval Reservist" November 2003 has several corrections. Correction for photo on page 5 of a woman shooting rifle—correct outline is: "Battle Creek, Mich.—HM2 Lesli Adams steadies her breathing prior to firing her next shot during a weapons qualifying evolution at Fort Custer Training Facility in Battle Creek, Mich. Adams is a member of Amphibious Construction Battalion Two Det. 113, which is based at Naval Reserve Center Detroit. Sailors in the unit requalify annually. Photo by JO3 Sandra Cho."

Photo credits on pages 6 and 7, photo "Letting Go" and photo "Proud Sailor" are by PH1 Michael Worner.

VFC-12 “Omars” begin nationwide search for experienced aviation avionics technicians

From VFC-12
Public Affairs

OCEANA, Va.—The “Fighting Omars” of Fighter Squadron Composite 12 (VFC-12), a Naval Reserve F/A-18 Hornet adversary squadron located at Naval Air Station (NAS) Oceana, Va., are undertaking a nationwide search for motivated Naval Reserve F/A-18 aviation technicians.

In order to attract qualified aviation technicians, VFC-12 is participating in an Inactive Duty Training Travel (IDTT) “Beta Test” program that provides travel for Reservists from their residence of record to NAS Oceana and other detachment sites.

Until now, drilling Reservists had to travel to their unit at their own expense. This made it prohibitively expensive for someone from Iowa, for example, to drill at NAS Oceana. A former aviation rated Naval Reservist who lives in Iowa would have to either drill outside their rate with a local unit in Iowa or not at all. Unfortunately, Naval Reserve units in the middle of the country typically do not own any hardware and cannot offer the opportunity of hands-on aviation rate training.

Through the new IDTT Beta Test program, newly-accessed Reservists will be paid full travel and lodging expenses once affiliated and committed to drilling with the Omars four or more times per year. They will also have the opportunity to do their yearly two-week active-duty period with the Omars, either at Oceana or at a detachment site. Recent detachments include Pensacola, Fla.; New Orleans; Las Vegas; Germany; and Key West, Fla.

This program has numerous benefits for the individual Reservist. It allows them a flexible opportunity to continue their naval service and advance in rank, all while working on aircraft and enjoying the camaraderie of a squadron. In addition, Reservists

maintain access to all base facilities and most military bene-

fits they had on active duty. Best of all, they accrue points toward retirement and are eligible for retiree medical benefits at age 60.

The benefits of this program to VFC-12 and the Navy are numerous. Even though based in the Norfolk area alongside a large active-duty naval population, 40 percent of VFC-12’s Reserve billets are unfilled. Reservists are an integral part of the operation as the squadron maintains 12 F/A-18s and flies as much or more than most active-duty F/A-18 squadrons. They do all this with a mix of Full Time Support and drilling Reserve personnel, but quite often it is the Reservists who have the most Hornet aircraft experience.

“Our team really counts on the Hornet experience that our Reserve technicians bring to the table. Because of this, they hold many of our top leadership positions,” said CDR Kevin Knight, squadron commanding officer.

Although the program is called a Beta Test, it has already proven overwhelmingly successful for 12 Reservists from the Detroit area. They were the first group of individuals to accept this challenge, and, in just one year, they have had four advancements, including one to chief petty officer, earned numerous individual awards and had several members qualify as Collateral Duty Inspectors (CDI) and Quality Assurance Representatives (QAR).

If you are a motivated Sailor with F/A-18 or F-14 experience and would like to stay engaged as a member of the Omar team, continuing the Global War on Terrorism, this program may be for you. Contact CMDCM(AW) Warren at VFC-12 at (757) 433-4918.

To learn more about the IDTT Beta Test program and other opportunities with the Naval Air Force Reserve, visit the Commander, Naval Air Force Reserve’s Web site at <http://reserves.navy.mil> or email herminia.costa@navy.mil.

“Liberty Bells” go “Around the World in 80 Days”

VP-66 Public Affairs

WILLOW GROVE, Pa.—During this past summer, the men and women of Patrol Squadron 66 (VP-66) embarked on a journey reminiscent of the classic Jules Verne novel “Around the World in 80 Days.” During their travels, the “Liberty Bells” combat air crews, consisting of active-duty and Reserve personnel, demonstrated war-fighting skills and the capabilities of the P-3C Orion. In an intense three-month period, VP-66 flew 206 detachment flight hours and successfully completed 37 operational missions, flying from five countries on three continents.

In June, Combat Aircrew Three (CAC-3), led by CDR Matt Doyle and LCDR Sam Sorgen, departed Willow Grove for Nordholz, Germany, to participate in Exercise Baltic Operations (BALTOPS), a NATO-sponsored exercise. Flying above the Baltic Sea off the northern coast of Germany, the crew was tasked to participate in the roles of both ally and enemy. While operating as a member of the enemy force, the crew provided over-the-horizon targeting and reconnaissance for the enemy force-controlling unit. Operating as an ally asset, CAC-3 successfully located, tracked, and executed several simulated attacks against a German Navy Type-209 diesel submarine. BALTOPS proved to be a successful test of Naval Reserve and NATO interoperability. CAC-3 was an integral member of the BALTOPS team and was subsequently recognized as the Commander, Reserve Patrol Wing Crew-of-the-Quarter for the 3rd Quarter of Fiscal Year 2003.

Two more Liberty Bell air crews had their opportunity to excel in July. CAC-8, led by CDR Rich Johnson and CDR Frank Myers, flew 40 hours during six missions while operating from Manta, Ecuador, in support of exercise UNITAS-03. The crew conducted anti-submarine warfare (ASW) operations in coordination with other surface and airborne units against a Peruvian diesel submarine that was no match for this Liberty Bell crew. Also during July, CDR Dan Hable and CDR Chris Johannsen led CAC-12 and an ordnance team to Marine Corps Base Kaneohe, Hawaii, for a Harpoon missile firing exercise named SINKEX 2003. Under cloudless blue skies, with the Pacific Ocean as a backdrop, the aircrew and weapons load team performed flawlessly by successfully loading and firing a live AGM-84 Harpoon anti-surface missile at the hull of a decommissioned destroyer, sinking the former USS Ingersoll (DD 990).

August provided more opportunities for the Liberty Bells to showcase their ASW skills, staging out of Keflavik, Iceland, in the multinational Keflavik Tactical Exchange Exercise 2003, (KEFTACEX ‘03). CAC-12 was again called on to fly eight missions totaling over 40 flight hours while operating alongside Dutch, Norwegian and French maritime patrol crews. The goal of this exercise was to increase interoperability among different nations’ air crews by combining forces against the French submarine, Casablanca. While on-station, CAC-12 demonstrated a high level of ASW proficiency by successfully tracking and conducting simulated Mk-46 torpedo attacks on the target.

VP-66 commanding officer CDR Stephen Sloan led the way for the next phase of the worldwide odyssey that placed Combat Aircrews Four and Seven at Misawa Air Base, Japan, in support of Seventh Fleet operations. During this four-week detachment, VP-66 aircrews and maintenance personnel seamlessly integrated with their active-duty counterparts by flying various operational missions, including Operation Enduring Freedom.

The VP-66 tactical motto is ‘Weapons on Target,’ and the squadron is continuously focused on honing its tactical proficiency while maintaining the highest possible level of safety. Thanks to the combined efforts of VP-66 air crews, maintenance, and administration personnel, the squadron went “Around the World in 80 Days” and proved there is no target or operational area out of reach of the Liberty Bells.



Photo provided by VFC-12

OCEANA, Va.—Air-to-air refueling complete, a section of VFC-12 aircraft under the “Ambush” call sign departs from a tanker to simulate the “Bad Guys” in another training exercise.

“Firehawks” support Operation Iraqi Freedom

JO2 Rebecca Horton
Navy Region Southwest Public Affairs

CORONADO, Calif.—The “Firehawks” of Helicopter Combat Support Special Squadron (HCS) 5 are in Iraq, mobilized and deployed for the first time since Operations Desert Storm/Desert Shield.

HCS-5 was the first naval air squadron deployed to Iraq, and the Firehawks still remain in theater.

“We have been called on to support Operation Iraqi Freedom for an indefinite amount of time,” said AMS1 Richard Segla, HCS-5 work center supervisor.

A squadron solely comprised of Reservists, HCS-5 is one of two squadrons in the Navy dedicated to Naval Special Warfare support and combat search and rescue.

Due to the uniqueness of their primary missions, service members from the squadron can tell you they don’t have the ordinary requirements of a Reserve unit.

“Our Selected Reservists dedicate more time

than one weekend a month and two weeks a year,” said CDR Russell Allen, HCS-5 executive officer. “The mission is challenging, and the training requirements are high.”

Pilots with HCS-5 are some of the most experienced helicopter pilots in the Navy, according to Allen. The average pilot has 12.5 years of experience flying, more than 2,600 logged military flight hours and more than seven years of mission experience.

The air crew members assigned come from all different ratings. “We are qualified in multiple weapons and tactics, and some of us can operate as search and rescue medical technicians,” said AMS2(AW/NAC) Kenneth Maust, HCS-5 air crew member.

“Every Sailor in our squadron is truly dedicated to his or her job,” Allen said.

In addition to the well-prepared crew, the Firehawks took four Sikorsky HH-60H Seahawk helicopters with them to Kuwait and Iraq.

“Our aircraft lead the Navy with mission system and weapon system upgrades,” said

LCDR Matt Scribner, HCS-5 pilot and operations department head. “With them, we can operate in a medium threat environment, close to the ground. It’s just what we need to complete our primary missions.”

The HH-60H Seahawk, manned with two pilots and two or three air crew members, is capable of flying low levels and long distances at night, in challenging operational environments. It can land on any surface with the intent of inserting or extracting personnel. Aircraft survivability equipment on the helo enables the flight crew to defend themselves against infrared and radar-guided missiles.

In March, 70 percent of the squadron’s Selected Reservists were called to active duty in preparation for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

“We mobilized 75 people and deployed to Kuwait within 10 days,” Allen said. “We arrived in March to support U.S. Central Command, Special Operations Command Central and Joint Special Operations Air Component.”

Although the majority of their flights in the

Iraqi theater have been supporting special operations ground forces missions, both in urban and rural areas, they have also provided support in other ways to the military.

“We have performed some secondary missions since being deployed to Iraq,” said Allen. “During Iraqi Freedom, we worked with PSYOPS (psychological operations) in dropping leaflets over Iraqi cities explaining to the Iraqi army how to surrender.”

The Firehawks have also participated in military operations in urban terrain, and helped with medical and casualty evacuations. Altogether, they have flown more than 390 sorties and logged more than 850 flight hours.

Although the Firehawks are in Iraq for an indefinite amount of time, Segla, Scribner and Maust recently returned home and are scheduled to go back in the coming months.

“Our goal is to keep our Sailors in theater for 90 to 120 days at a time,” said Allen. “We are constantly rotating through the squadron, sending Sailors to Iraq, and bringing others home.”



KADENA, Japan—Aircraft maintainers make their final inspection of a P-3C Orion main mount tire replacement prior to clearing the aircraft for flight. Photo by PH1(SW) JoEllen Finerfrock.

“BROAD ARROWS” BULLSEYE WESTPAC TRAINING OBJECTIVES

ENS Greg Flores
COMNAVRESFOR Public Affairs Det. Kadena

KADENA, Japan—Flight crews and maintenance handlers of Patrol Squadron 62 (VP-62) had the opportunity to put some old training to the test while at the same time learning real world tactical skills.

The VP-62 “Broad Arrows” have had as many as four Reserve detachments lending contributory support to their active-duty host, VP-4, during their Western Pacific deployment over a three-month period this summer.

VP-62 crews are equipped with state-of-the-art P-3C Orion update III aircraft, configured with the Navy’s Anti-Surface Warfare Improvement Program, Electro-Optical Sensor System, Synthetic Aperture Radar, and unparalleled improvements in command, control, communications and reconnaissance and intelligence capabilities.

Although P-3 Orions were developed primarily for anti-submarine warfare (ASW) operations, the planes have migrated into more versatile roles. During the height of the Cold War, through the late 1980s, P-3s were instrumental in tracking and intercepting submarine and maritime traffic worldwide. Today, P-3 squadrons are heavily involved in a wide range of activities to include ASW, counter narcotic operations and inland and coastal reconnaissance.

“Bringing these assets to VP-4 allows us to share our resources and to cross train in a real world environment,” said LCDR Shawn McGhee, VP-62 admin officer. “They work hard out here and we were glad to assist them by augmenting their operational tempo, while receiving some great training at the same time. The active-duty training received here with VP-4 is invaluable to us and has provided us the opportunity to keep our planes, crews and mission tactics honed.”

The two squadrons shared operational and tactical training within the same area of operations.

“We count on Reserve VP squadrons more now than we ever have,” said CDR Robert Racoosin, VP-4 commanding officer. “Crews of VP-62 bring an awful lot to us. Although their normal area of responsibility differs, we are able to integrate them right into the squadron. We use them in our daily reconnaissance, ASW and ready alert detachment operations.”

VP-62 flight crews had the opportunity to conduct augmenting missions consisting of oceanographic studies, tactical training and standard reconnaissance operations. The work can be tedious, interrupted with intermittent moments of sheer excitement that make it all worthwhile. As long as there are threats to maritime traffic by ships, submarines, terrorists or drug traffickers, crews of VP-62 stand equipped and trained to deal a lethal blow to their success.



Photo by ENS Greg Flores

KADENA, Japan—AOC Gordon Lydick prepares a sonobuoy for launching during a mission with members of the Naval Oceanographic Office. Sonobuoys provide crucial information that is transmitted to the aircraft’s many onboard computers for analysis.



Photo by PH1(SW) JoEllen Finerfrock

KADENA, Japan—AT2 Eric Heinemen of VP-62 fights the torrential rain of the approaching typhoon Choiwan as aircraft and crew ready for an immediate evacuation of Kadena.

VP-62 provides valuable support to Naval Oceanographic Office

ENS Greg Flores
COMNAVRESFOR Public Affairs Det. Kadena

KADENA, Japan—For crew members of Patrol Squadron 62 (VP-62), the opportunity to further prove the tremendous versatility of their skills is just like another day at the office. While on a recent deployment, VP-62 crew members offered operational support to oceanographers from the Naval Oceanographic Office (NOO).

Oceanographers from NOO were conducting water density and temperature readings in and around the Philippines Sea. Water temperature surveys, or BTEC (Bear Trap Environmental Conditions), allow NOO to map changes in water temperatures along extremely deep ocean canyons that may affect acoustical and navigational readings.

“Sometimes deep canyons and crevasses in the topography of the ocean floor could adversely affect a ship’s ability to navigate or receive accurate acoustical readings,” said Jeffery Kerling, a NOO oceanographer. “These surveys track and document changes in temperatures as they change with both currents and normal seasonal or adverse weather changes.”

VP-62 used P-C Orion aircraft to meet the challenge. The Orion is one of the Navy’s most versatile aircraft and provides invaluable support to both military and civilian oceanographic studies. VP-62 crew members dropped a series of sonobuoys over a 400-square-mile area and the crew then followed by dropping small explosives, called SUS, within the same area. The explosive detonations create a sound signature that is picked up by the sonobuoys as it travels through the water and then transmits the data to the Orion crew.



Photo by JO2 Steve Vasquez
Barren, leafless trees display evidence of the wake of destruction left behind by wildfires in the San Diego County area.



PH1Michael D. Kennedy
AE1 Carl Hohenbuge and AE2 Daryl Bellows, assigned to the "Golden Gators" of Helicopter Combat Support Squadron Eighty Five (HC-85) prepare a "Bambi bucket," which will be connected to a UH-3H Sea King helicopter. The bucket can hold 324 gallons of water weighing 2,800 lbs., and was used for training flights and aircraft certification for Navy personnel who assisted in mutual fire fighting efforts against wild fires that raged throughout Southern California

Narrow Escape San Diego



Photo by PH2 Michael J. Pusnik, Jr.
A Sea King helicopter (UH-3H) assigned to the "Golden Gators" of Reserve Helicopter Combat Support Squadron Eighty Five (HC-85) assists in fire fighting efforts throughout the Scripps Ranch area of San Diego. Wild fires caused extensive damage throughout Southern California, scorching more than 500,000 acres of land.



Photo by JO2 Steve Vasquez
With firefighters unavailable to contain the fire at Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center San Diego, the center's HUMVEE was among the casualties.

Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center San Diego narrowly escapes fire

JO2(SS) Steve Vasquez
Naval Media Center San Diego Det. 119

SAN DIEGO—Raging wildfires sweeping across Southern California forced evacuation of Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center (NMCRC) San Diego, but the efforts of firefighters saved the facility.

"The flames were coming right up to the Reserve center door," said CAPT John M. Landon, commanding officer of the center.

That was in the initial stages of what has turned into the largest fire in California history. More than 300,000 acres of land were scorched and almost 2,400 homes destroyed in the wake of the fires. In the end, NMCRC San Diego was spared, suffering only minimal damage.

The fires did pose a serious threat to the center and its property. "Since it was not a regular drill weekend, the Reserve Center was minimally manned," Landon said. "Those at the Reserve Center reacted as best as they could. They moved what vehicles they could, but four Marine landing vehicles and two buses located on the edge of the parking lot could not be moved."

In the minutes that followed, they became part of the growing statistics of the fire. The fire came up to the edge of the center parking lot and then turned southwest. It continued on its way then jumped a 10-lane section of Interstate 15 onto the southern portion of Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar.

Two landing vehicles, Marine Corps Reserve Center San Diego, the vehicles and structures were destroyed. One of three major wildfires in San Diego County on Oct. 15, 2003, burned more than 300,000 acres, including areas of the Reserve Center Miramar.

After the fires started, "I had received reports of vehicles, generators, and other equipment destroyed at the center, but I also received reports that the center was being on the move. Now the center is being moved. We were lucky."

"We asked for help, but at that time there were some very critical needs around San Diego," Landon said. "Houses were burning just up the street and the firefighters from MCAS Miramar were trying to save planes. The people here did what they could but then they just needed to leave. In this case, people are more important than property. I gave instruction for people to leave the building and get out of the area, just leave the computers on and get out."

As the day went on, fires continued to rage south and west of San Diego. Fire forced evacuation of the Murphy Canyon military family housing complex. Families were evacuated to Qualcomm Stadium. Local military bases later opened their doors to those needing safe accommodations. USS Boxer (LHD 4) and USS Mercy (T-AH 19) also served as a home for military families.

"We used our emergency phone list and were able to get a hold of almost all of our command," Landon said. "Although some of my staff were asked to evacuate, no one lost their house or were hurt. That was the important thing. We support more than 2,800 drilling Reservists and more than 80 commands. From what we know, no Reservists were hurt or suffered any property damage."

"Right now we are getting reports that the Marine Corps Reserve Center San Diego is being moved within a week or so."

MOBEX KEY WEST 2003



Photo feature by PH1 Dean Dunwoody

Divers from Reserve unit EODMU 10 conclude a training evolution during the MOBEX. EODMU 10, based in Virginia, conducted the exercise to test and validate unit capabilities. Sailors from the unit were mobilized in Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. In the days after Sept. 11, 2001, EODMU 10 divers were tasked to provide force protection to the Fifth and Sixth Fleet areas of operations and local law enforcement.



Photo by JO2 Steve Vasquez

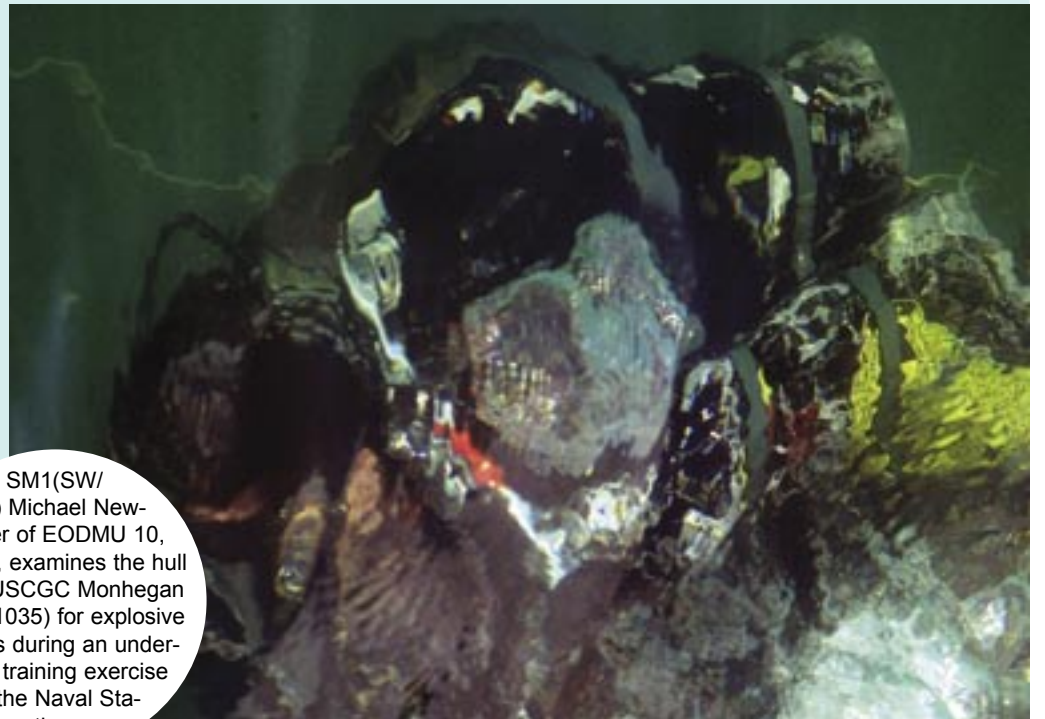
s and a bus parked at Naval and
ve Center, San Diego, were among
uctures burned by the Cedar Fire,
wildfires that swept through San Di-
26. Combined, the three fires had
00,000 acres through Nov. 2, includ-
serve Center and Marine Corps Air

ubsided, Landon was allowed to reenter the Reserve cen-

ved reports from base security about the damage to the
ctors and storage boxes that were around the Reserve
o knew the Center had not received any direct damage."
We surveyed the area and just saw burnt land, it was like
oon and the sky was still orange from all the smoke."
anup process has begun.

ucky. Things could have been worse," Landon said.

ing back to business as usual. The ability of Navy and
eservists to act under adverse conditions is a testament to
ooking around at the destruction, to be up and running
s a job well done."



SM1(SW/
DV) Michael New-
comer of EODMU 10,
Norfolk, examines the hull
of the USCGC Monhegan
(WPB 1035) for explosive
devices during an under-
water training exercise
at the Naval Sta-
tion.



SKSN
Alessandra
Spinazzola makes
her first helo cast
jump during a train-
ing exercise for
EODMU 10.

EOD MOBILE UNIT 10 EXERCISE CONDUCTED ON HEELS OF DEMOBILIZATION

MMCM(SW) Terence B. Hoey
EODMU 10

KEY WEST, Fla.—On Sept. 11, 2001, members of Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 10 (EODMU 10) knew they would be called upon to respond to the attacks on the United States. The call came, and EODMU 10 was ready.

EODMU 10 members were tasked to provide dive capable force protection to the Fifth and Sixth Fleet areas of operations, law enforcement, physical security support, and direct support to EOD and special operations capable units.

Since Sept. 11, EODMU 10 has had unit members mobilized in support of Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. The last mobilized unit members returned home in late September 2003 from Sixth Fleet after supporting EODMU 8, Sigonella, Italy, completing more than two years of continuous deployments and mobilization.

"On Sept. 11, 2001, I was shocked, honored to serve and prepared to do my part in defending our nation and interests abroad," said BM2(SW/DV) George W. Van Houten, who is an emergency medical technician, paramedic and firefighter in his civilian job.

Once the last EODMU 10 Sailors returned home this summer from operational support in the Global War on Terrorism, they conducted a self-initiated Mobility Exercise (MOBEX) at Naval Air Station Key West, Fla., to keep the unit's much-in-demand capabilities honed.

EODMU 10 has four types of detachments: Ordnance Clearance Detachments (OCD); Mobile Communications Detachments (MCD); an Area Search Detachment (ASD); and the newest mission, the Combat Service Support Detachment (CSSD).

"The opportunity for all four detachments, plus staff, to deploy, train and interact with each other has had a huge positive

effect on the command," said BMCS(EOD/SW/AW) Andrew Baran. "The interaction of the Sailors has been outstanding and is a direct contributor to the success of this mobilization exercise."

Baran is the unit's operations officer. He is directly responsible to ensure all unit members are mobilization ready and achieve a high level of technical competence and performance in their mission areas.

"Planning and executing this first-ever, command-wide mobilization exercise demonstrates our ability to rapidly deploy and operate," said CDR Arron Peters, EODMU 10 commanding officer. "Exercising the whole command 1,200 miles away from home provides us the opportunity to build individual and team skills in an unfamiliar environment. This builds the command's knowledge and experience base, contributing to the command's overall mission readiness."

EODMU 10 Selected Reserve members come from a widely diverse civilian cross-section to include firefighters, law enforcement, management, federal government, aviation and construction. The unit is always looking for the best quality Sailors to join the team.

"We are looking for motivated individuals who are in outstanding physical condition and desire to be part of a dedicated team," said AOC Charles D. Hogans, officer-in-charge of the MCD.

EODMU 10, stationed at Fort Story, Va., reports to Commander, EOD Group Two and is a fully commissioned unit consisting of approximately 75 active-duty, Full Time Support and drilling Reserve personnel.

For more information about EODMU 10 contact BMCM(EOD/SEAL) Butch Despard, EODMU 10's command master chief, at (757) 422-7936 ext. 229 or via e-mail at rjdespard@eodgru2.navy.mil.



MOBEX
camp set-up
with an ocean
beach view
at NAS Key
West.



Photo by PH2 Louis Brennan
EL CIRUELO, Honduras—U.S. Navy Doctor CAPT Cindy Davis examines the inner ear of a child during a free health care clinic conducted in the highlands of Honduras. U.S. medical personnel from Naval Reserve Fleet Hospital Great Lakes and Honduras military forces conducted a two-week Medical Readiness Training (MEDRETE) in Honduras to provide needed medical attention to locals while preparing the medical team to operate in remote areas. During the past year, Commander U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command sponsored five MEDRETE in Central and South America, which benefited more than 15,000 low-income people.

An open letter from Naval Reserve Force Medical

From Naval Reserve Force Medical

We are well aware of the medical issues that many Naval Reservists are experiencing. These issues include service-connected injuries and illnesses, concerns about continuity of care as you transition back into the civilian healthcare system and payments for medical services provided to you and/or your family while on active duty or after discharge. Some of you may still be dealing with medical issues and may have many unanswered questions. We want to help.

It is important to remember that you will automatically be disenrolled from TRICARE Prime upon release from active duty. You must actively re-enroll (yourself and/or your family members) in TRICARE if you wish to continue the TRICARE Prime benefit during the transitional healthcare period. To re-enroll in TRICARE Prime, you should contact the regional TRICARE managed care support contractor or your local TRICARE service center. The TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil will link you to the region in which you will receive healthcare. From that link, you can find the correct telephone number. The enrollment form is also available on the TRICARE Web site. The TRICARE Information Center can be reached at 1-877-DOD CARE (363-2273).

With the TRICARE Dental Program (TDP), you will need to make decisions about continuing the program. Family members of Reservists ordered to active duty for more than 30 days in support of a contingency operation and who are enrolled during the first 30 days, are not bound by the 12 month initial enrollment requirement. When the sponsor is released from active duty, the family will be

automatically transferred to the full premium rate. The member must actively disenroll the family within the first 30 days of release from active duty if they do not want to continue TDP at the full premium rate. Family members of Reservists ordered to active duty in support of a contingency operation, who are enrolled in TDP after the first 30 days, will be bound by the initial enrollment requirement and will be automatically continued in the TDP at the full premium rate. Family members previously enrolled under the Selected Reserve TDP will be automatically continued at the full premium rate until the initial enrollment requirement is satisfied. In all circumstances, you must actively disenroll from TDP or coverage is automatically continued. Please verify enrollment status with TDP before having dental work done to ensure you are covered. For more information contact United Concordia customer service toll free at (800) 866-8499, or enrollment: at (888) 622-2256. The Web site is ucci.com.

We understand demobilizing after a sudden and unexpected period away from home and family may create stress and confusion. In regards to your demobilization benefits, it is the Naval Reserve's responsibility to assist you in your return home. We want to make sure you are aware of your medical benefits. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your commanding officer or medical department representative at your Reserve Center..

Please direct additional questions or concerns to CAPT R.G. Hibbs by phone at (504) 678-1085, or e-mail Richard.Hibbs@navy.mil; or CAPT F.L. Nuar by phone at (202) 762-3497, or e-mail FLNuar@us.med.navy.mil.

Navy's YN "A" School goes interactive

JO2 Diane Jones
Naval Personnel Development Command Public Affairs

MERIDIAN, Miss.—Sailors who are destined to become future Yeomen (YN) are in for a great surprise. The "A" School they were expecting is now online. A revolution in Navy training innovation, Sailors now learn to become YNs through a virtual online office that simulates the environment Sailors will encounter at sea.

The new prototype of YN "A" School is an interactive online course taught in a classroom environment. Students will learn through a virtual office. For example, a student can click on a filing cabinet—this will give them access to learning about the Navy's filing system among other pertinent skills. Instructors are replaced by facilitators who are there to help students navigate through the courseware. Sailors can work their way toward becoming a qualified Yeoman at their own pace. These Sailors will now be able to begin YN "A" School as soon as they arrive in Meridian, Miss. No more waiting for a class to form or wasting time waiting for the next course to begin.

"The Yeoman course normally takes five weeks to complete. With the new hands-on, reality-based course, the time could be

cut down to as little as three weeks. It's all up to the Sailor," said Dean Norman, director of innovations and analysis at the Naval Personnel Development Command/Task Force EXCEL.

Using this prototype as the example for the future of learning will save the Navy a significant amount of money. According to Norman, it's thought that just the YN "A" School prototype alone can save the Navy up to \$900,000 the first year.

Not stopping with the YN "A" School, the revolutionary approach will eventually extend to all the administrative "A" School. This means that the Personnelman, Religious Program Specialist, Storekeeper, Ship's Serviceman, Aviation Maintenance Administrationman ratings as well as the Flag Writer follow-on school will become a self-paced online interactive course. The face of traditional "A" Schools is changing.

"This prototype, as well as the Electricity, Electronic, Communications and Radar prototype launched earlier, will have far reaching results," said Norman. "These innovations are bringing knowledge to Sailors, wherever they are and when they need it."

For more information about the innovation at YN "A" School visit www.nko.navy.mil.

NAVAL RESERVE DEMOBILIZATION MEDICAL PROCESS

For Naval Reserve personnel with a need for follow-up care or continuing physical therapy:

1. Report to medical for any injury incurred or aggravated during your activation period.
2. During the demobilization process, if you have a medical issue you believe is considered to be disqualifying for service, request your case be evaluated by the Bureau of Naval Personnel Senior Medical Officer.
3. Upon demobilization, report to your Naval Reserve Activity (NRA), reporting your medical condition that may require any ongoing care.
4. Your NRA will complete the required documents with you and fax them to Commander, Naval Reserve Force, Force Medical. After review of your record, Force Medical will approve or disapprove your benefits based on whether your injury was incurred or aggravated in the line of duty. All Reservists demobilized with an in-the-line-of-duty injury or illness will be granted a Notice of Eligibility (NOE)/Line of Duty (LOD) drilling benefits. This document will entitle you to medical care for the condition in question.

This does not entitle you to incapacitation pay benefits. If you happen to elect to receive some form of evasion procedure, for example surgery, your benefits will then change to include incapacitation pay benefits.

5. The approval or disapproval letter will be sent to your NRA with a copy to you. This letter will entitle you to medical benefits at any Military Treatment Facility (MTF). If you live outside the catchment area of a MTF, your Medical Department Representative (MDR) will work with Military Medical Support Office Great Lakes, Ill. to obtain prior approval for you to seek civilian medical care locally.
6. You will need to work with your MDR on a monthly basis to keep your record up to date and processed in a timely manner. If your injury or illness becomes permanent, your MDR will initiate a medical board at the nearest MTF.
7. Call your local MDR for any further questions regarding the NOE/LOD process.



Navy Photo by PH2 Louis Brennan
EL CIRUELO, Honduras—HM2 Lesli Adams cleans the wound of an injured patient during a free health care clinic conducted in the highlands of Honduras. U.S. and Honduran military forces conducted a two-week Medical Readiness Training (MEDRETE) in Honduras to provide needed medical attention to locals while preparing the medical team to operate in remote areas.



Photo by JO1(SW) Dwayne Rider
KANSAS CITY, Mo.—IT3 Michael Robinette, of Kansas City, Mo., secures the flooring of a Habitat for Humanity Northland home with a hammer, nails and sweat. Robinette, a sixth grade school teacher, believes his few hours of volunteering make a world of difference in the community.

The changing face of GMT

LTJG Amanda Raymond
Naval Personnel Development Command Public Affairs

DAM NECK, Va.—Distribution of General Military Training (GMT) is now just a few clicks away. Through an online or CD-ROM based pre-assessment test, Sailors can now receive credit for what they already know. The Center for Personnel Development, working with Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) and Navy eLearning, developed this program to improve training accountability and to evaluate for the first time how well Sailors comprehend GMT materials. While still at the discretion of commands, this new program is estimated to save the Navy thousands of man-hours. The Navy requires specific GMT topics to be taught every year to all Sailors in the areas of personal health and wellness, personal and professional development and safety. Currently, pre-assessment tests for the nine required annual topics are available on the Navy eLearning Web site. By passing these pre-tests at a level of 80 percent or better, Sailors can print

a completion certificate and turn it in to their training officer, exempting them from formal command training. “This revolutionizes the way training is conducted, and the potential benefits are extraordinary,” said CAPT William Marlow, commanding officer for the Center for Personnel Development. “Sailors can finally receive credit for knowledge they already possess and reduce the time they would spend in training.” These courses also include a post test, which will help course designers assess the training’s effectiveness. Through NKO, users can find the assessment tests on the eLearning Web site. Once there, select ‘catalog’ to find the GMT category. Users then can click on ‘FY04 GMT Required Topics’ to add it to their learning plan and select ‘Launch’ to begin taking the tests. To learn more about the GMT topics online, visit the Center for Personnel Development homepage on NKO at: www.nko.navy.mil.



Photo by JO3 Stephen P. Weaver

SIGONELLA, Sicily—Naval Reservist SK2 Frederick Short works in the NAS Sigonella Public Works Department creating a mold, which will then be used to create a plaque. Short made sculptures which were used at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta and has created emblems for various commands. NAS Sigonella provides logistical support for Commander, Sixth Fleet and NATO forces in the Mediterranean area.



Photo by PH2(AW) Justin C. Proul

CHEYENNE, Wy.—DT2 Elaine Belford inspects a patient’s teeth for defects, such as cavities and plaque, using a mirror and explorer.

A tool for Naval Reserve leadership

ENS Aaron J. Bedy,
NAVINFO East 102 Public Affairs

NEW YORK—ADM Jay Johnson, the former Chief of Naval Operations, once said, “There is nothing more important than developing new leaders.” Today, the Naval Reserve is working as hard as ever to instill leadership in its ranks, and one tool the Navy uses is the Reserve Officer Leadership Course, taught regularly to both senior and junior officers at Naval Bases and Reserve Centers around the country. The Reserve Officer Leadership Course, developed in San Diego in September 1997, is a two-day, seminar-based course that covers everything from ethics and core values to the key elements of various leadership styles. It examines real-world, present day and historical scenarios that require military officers to think critically about their own leadership capabilities and leadership in the Navy. The course is interactive and averages between 15 and 25 class members who discuss Naval leadership. ENS Domenica Carrier, a nurse in the Portsmouth Det. A Bahrain Unit and a recent class attendee, said the class was incredibly beneficial to her, especially as a new direct commission officer.

“Being a novice nurse is always task-oriented and being a good officer is looking not just at the task at hand, but at the mission of the unit.”

“Senior officer instructors have given me insight in how to lead and take the ideas I have learned about leadership back to my unit,” said Carrier. “Currently, I am in the role of a nurse and this course has taught me to look beyond case management and shown me how I can build the bridge to leadership.” “Being a novice nurse is always task-oriented and being a good officer is looking not just at the task at hand, but at the mission of the unit,” said Carrier. Various leadership courses are available to both active-duty and Reserve officers, based on rank. The Reserve Officer Leadership Course is closely modeled after its active-duty counterpart, the Command Leadership School (CLS), which is taught in Newport, R.I. The two-week CLS is limited to prospective commanding officers, and includes a one and a half-day trip to Great Lakes Naval Training Center in Great Lakes, Ill. To learn more about the wide variety of Navy Leadership and career-enhancing courses designed to help further your Navy career, go to the Naval Education and Training Command’s Web site at www.cnet.navy.mil.

A-OK Student Reward Program helps make college more affordable

Kristine M. Sturkie
Navy Exchange Service Command Public Affairs

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va.—The Navy Exchange could make it easier to pay for children’s college education. Through its A-OK Student Reward Program, four students will win a drawing for either a \$5,000, \$3,000, \$2,000 or \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bonds. Drawings are held each quarter throughout the school year for a total of \$44,000 for the current school year. “The A-OK Program was created in 1997 to reward students for getting good grades in school,” said Mike Mongin, retail operations specialist at the Navy Exchange Service Command. “This year, we decided to add a fourth savings bond to give even more students the opportunity to save for their college education. Since its inception, a total of \$200,000 in savings bonds have been awarded to 60 winners. We are proud

to support our Navy family through this great program.” Any eligible full-time student who has a ‘B’ grade point average equivalent or better, as determined by their school system, may enter the drawing. Eligible students include dependent children of Reservists, active-duty military members and military retirees enrolled in first through 12th grades. Dependent children without an individual dependent identification card must be accompanied by their sponsor to submit their entry. Each student may enter only once each grading period and must re-enter with each qualifying report card. Applicants may enter the drawings by bringing current report cards to any Navy Exchange to verify the minimum grade point average, completing entry cards and obtaining an A-OK ID, which offers discount coupons for Navy Exchange products and services.

QUICK TIP

Support our troops

There are a variety of great ways available to send your support to our troops serving overseas and away from home this holiday season. For good suggestions, an assortment of links are listed on the Department of Defense “Defend America” Web site at: www.defendamerica.mil/support_troops.html. Another great site is operated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars at: www.operationuplink.org.

Force integration continues: Chaplains come together

JOSN J. Hastings McIver
COMNAVRESFOR Public Affairs

NEW ORLEANS—"...But grow like savages, as soldiers will, that nothing do but meditate on blood..."

On this particular day, Chaplain (CAPT) Stephen J. Linehan has on his desk a hard-back copy of Shakespeare's Henry V, from which he reads that passage. The reference illustrates the reality faced by many Sailors and Marines right at this very moment, that harsh reality that is the transition from mobilization and combat to life back home, away from the battlefield. While the words may be hundreds of years old, the truth within them speaks volumes to this very day.

Due to the efforts of individuals like Linehan, these Sailors and Marines can count on at least one thing during difficult times such as these: The presence of a Navy chaplain, ready and willing to provide religious ministry, spiritual counseling, a sympathetic ear and words of assurance and encouragement.

Linehan, assigned to Naval Reserve Forces Command (NRFC), is charged with supporting, training and assigning Naval Reserve chaplains within various units that support the operational requirements of the Navy and Marine Corps. The support of Reserve chaplains to the active duty Navy during Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom has demonstrated in a powerful way the integration of active

"We provide for our own, we facilitate for others, and we care for all."

and Reserve components. This support by Naval Reserve chaplains reached Sailors and Marines before, during and after their mobilization. Reserve chaplains have additionally supported the active-duty Navy by providing religious ministry through the Casualty Assistance Call Office Program, the Funeral Honors Program and by reaching out to family members who saw their Reservist mobilized to help with the Global War on Terrorism. The efforts of both the active and Reserve chaplains combined to enhance religious ministry resources in support of our fighting forces.

Linehan is well versed in the evolutions and requirements surrounding mobilization. In his 30 years of service with the Navy, 10 of which were served as a Selected Reserve chaplain, Linehan has gained a great understanding of the challenges service members must face as they balance their military and civilian lives.

Through the integration of the active and Reserve components, Naval chaplains are now better able to help service members through the challenges they face during the mobilization and de-mobilization processes. "Our Sailors and Marines are entitled to the free exercise of their religion. The Navy is committed to supporting those rights as best as it can within the context of the military environment," said Linehan. "Our nation is committed to offering the best resources in regards to their spiritual and religious needs."

"...But grow like savages, as soldiers will, that nothing do but meditate on blood..."

Since 9/11, almost 150 Reserve chaplains and Religious Program Specialists have been mobilized to provide religious ministry and spiritual support to service members and their families.

"It's been said that we recruit the Sailor, but we retain the family," said Linehan. He said support to Sailors and Marines must include family members as a priority; he himself has been called upon to help the loved ones of casualties of war through their difficult times.

Linehan works in tandem with Chaplain (CDR) Timothy S. Lantz, who is also involved in the assignment of Reserve chaplains worldwide. "Our chaplains can serve in three different uniforms: Marine Corps, Navy and Coast Guard," said, Lantz, alluding to the wide variety of billets available to Reserve chaplains.

Lantz spoke highly of the chaplains' willingness and desire to offer assistance to any and all who are in need. "A guiding principal for our Chaplain Corps has been: 'We provide for our own, we facilitate for others, and we care for all,'" said Lantz.

In essence, the responsibilities of a Navy chaplain reach far beyond the traditional religious ministerial settings. They often find themselves forward deployed, side-by-side with Sailors and Marines, ashore and afloat. It is their calm, levelheaded ability to deal with a person in critical circumstances that make them such a rare breed. When asked to explain that quality, Linehan simply said, "It's compassion, it's sympathy and it's understanding, spiritual things we all need."

OPPORTUNITIES

NAVAIR ASP pay billets for Selected Reservists

The NAVAIR Air Systems Program (ASP) is primarily a 15XX designator community, but 13XX officers with the qualifications noted below are welcomed. Specifically targeted are 0-3 / 0-4s and below.

Reservists with aerospace engineering, aircraft maintenance, operations development, acquisition, production, testing, and logistics support of aircraft are encouraged to apply. Other qualifications needed are aerospace aviation weapons system or related support systems with government agencies or the aerospace/defense industry.

Billets are available nationwide with specific vacancies in San Diego; St. Louis; Cherry Point, N.C.; Minneapolis; Newport, R.I.; Santa Clara, Calif.; and Point Mugu, Calif.

Interested personnel may contact LCDR Terry Reddaway, program manager, AIR-7.9E at (301) 757-2153, DSN 757-2153 or email terry.reddaway@navy.mil.

President proclaims National Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week

COMNAVRESFOR Public Affairs

WASHINGTON—President George W. Bush paid tribute to the National Guard and Reserve by signing a proclamation to mark the week of Nov. 17 as National Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week.

"In times of need, our nation counts on the Guard and Reserve members to fulfill their commitments of service," said the President at ceremonies conducted in the East Room. "We value their courage and we honor their sacrifice. They are defending their nation in the War on Terror and they're serving in a just cause."

President Bush acknowledged the support of five companies recognized as winners of this year's Secretary of Defense Employers Support Freedom Award. Central Atlantic Toyota Distribution Center; D.H. Griffin Wrecking Company; Miller Brewing; Pacific Gas and Electric Corporation; and Tyson Foods were singled out for their outstanding support to the Guard and Reserves.

"These companies do their utmost to support and encourage service in America's National Guard and Reserve," President Bush said. "They provide pay, health care benefits and job security to the men and women who are called to active duty. They recognize that their workers are fighting to keep America free."

Among those attending the ceremony was VADM John G. Cotton, Commander, Naval Reserve Force.



U.S. Naval Historical Center Photograph

NAVAL RESERVE HISTORY—(Above left) USS Ward (DD 139) and USS Chew (DD 106) in port in Hawaii.

(Above right) Crewmen from USS Ward (DD 139) pose with their ship's battle "scoreboard," soon after the Biak Invasion, circa June 1944 (above, right). Ward earned the distinction of firing the first shot at the outset of World War II when the ship sank a Japanese midget submarine just outside Pearl Harbor on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941. Ward's crew included 85 Naval Reservists from Minnesota.

Dec. 7, 1941

Naval Reservists Fire the First Shot

Ushering the U.S. into the war in the Pacific



U.S. Naval Historical Center Photograph

All but two men pictured here are Naval Reservists from Minnesota, and the entire group served together after the attack on Pearl Harbor. They are L/R (bottom row) J.L. Spratt, MM2/c; A.J. Fink, CM2/c; O.S. Ethier, MM1/c; C.W. Fenton, BM1/c; D.R. Pepin, SM1/c; J.G. LeClair, SOM2/c; F.V. Huges, SOM2/c. (Top Row) R.B. Nolde, SF1c; W.G. Grip, BM2c; H.F. Germanin, S1c; H.J. Harris, MM1c; H.K. Paynter, CMO/MM; J.K. Lovsted, CMMM; W.H. Duval, CCS, (of San Diego); I.E. Holley, CSK (of Los Angeles); W.S. Lehner, SC1c; F.J. Bukrey, CM1c; and F.L. Fratta, MM1c.



Photo by JOC(SQ/SW) Kelly Firebaugh

ST. LOUIS—NC1 Gerald Wilson, assigned to Naval Reserve Recruiting Region West, performs the National Anthem at the Edward Jones Dome as part of Veterans Day pre-game ceremonies. AMS2 Joseph Seiler, AK2 Jonathan Travis, MM2 Brian St. George and OS2 Will Martin, all assigned to the Navy Recruiting District St. Louis, served as the color guard.

Naval Reserve Recruiter shares his vocal talents with the nation

JOC(SQ/SW) Kelly Firebaugh
NRD St. Louis Public Affairs

ST. LOUIS—NC1 Gerald Wilson became an overnight celebrity when he performed the National Anthem on ESPN's Sunday Night Football Nov. 9, but the 14-year Navy veteran likes to keep it all in perspective.

"I've been singing in front of people since I was five," said Wilson. "But you always have to remember who you are and where you came from. There is always someone out there who is better, so we all need to be thankful for what we have."

Who is Wilson and where did he come from? He's a happily married husband, father of two daughters, from St. Louis, and a proud Navy man.

"I was in for eight years active duty and then went [Naval] Reserve for a year and two months. I decided to go active again six years ago and plan on staying in at least six more," he said.

He started his singing career as a youth, and by the time he was serving in the Naval Reserve, was the choir director at his local church.

"When the Reserve Center found out I could sing, they asked me to sing at drill. They liked what I did and they asked me again. That's where it started."

In the past few years, Wilson has performed the National Anthem for professional baseball, football, basketball, soccer and hockey games. His rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner" has wowed audiences at concerts, rallies, civic events and military ceremonies, always with a power and enthusiasm that makes listeners proud to be Americans.

"You've got to be in the song," explained Wilson on his approach. "You've got to know why that flag is waving and understand the people who keep it flying. You've got to understand what it means and what made it so important."

To the young people out there who are interested in finding out what it means, he gives his view on joining the Navy.

"It's an opportunity you don't want to let go past you," he said. "Seize the moment, and make it yours."

FAMILY FOCUS



Yonna Diggs
Force Ombudsman-at-Large

I guess you have heard the old saying, Knowledge is Power." Well, that is true. For Reserve families, it is important to know where to access information when you need it. The first place you might want to start is with your local ombudsman. The command ombudsman will have a vast amount of information and resources that can assist you and your family. They are trained volunteers who are dedicated to assisting and helping families with issues that arise due to the military lifestyle. If you need additional information regarding the ombudsman program in your area, contact the Command Master

Chief of the command in which your spouse drills.

With today's technology, assessing information is just a touch away. This is a real convenience for families of Reservists. Many of us do not live near military installations, so the Internet becomes an

effective way of obtaining valuable information. Here are some sites you will find of interest:

Lifelines: <http://www.lifelines.navy.mil>

Lifelines is more than just a mere Web site. It is a comprehensive, interactive family support site that covers every aspect of military life. Information in this site is being updated regularly to reflect those issues that are of greatest interest to you.

TRICARE (ReserveComponent): <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/>

If you have had questions regarding your healthcare or transitional benefits, this is a great site to assess information about TRICARE benefits. It covers who is eligible, dental benefits and contains other informational links.

Legal Services: <http://www.jagcnet.army.mil/Legal>

This site contains a section dealing with deployment and mobilization I highly recommend all Reservists and their spouses review. Pre-planning is the key to a smooth transition should the Reserve

member be deployed or mobilized.

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR): <http://www.esgr.com>

When there are employment questions about returning to work after a deployment, this is where you should start. This site has information regarding the Reservist's rights under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

Chaplain Care: <http://www.chaplaincare.navy.mil/index.htm>

The chaplain and ombudsman often work together to help families through crisis. Both offer confidentiality to the families and have valuable resources that can be available to help. This site has many toll-free numbers that offer various types of services.

As the year comes to a close, I wish you and your families a safe and happy holiday season and best of luck in the coming New Year.

For additional information regarding the Reserve ombudsman program, call me toll-free at (800) 675-5728, or email me at Yonna.Diggs@navy.mil.



NEW ORLEANS—HM3 Latara Hall examines a patient's vision using the Armed Forces Vision Testing device (AFVT) for nearsightedness. HM3 Hall is a Selected Reservist and has been in the United States Navy for four years.

Photo by PH2 Jessica McCahan



Photo by PH2 Justin C. Proulx

NEW ORLEANS—AOAN Shawn Nevills from Washington and AOAN Jennifer Kavanagh from New York City fill bags with lime that were mixed with fuel for a pyrotechnic display for the 2003 New Orleans Air Show, held on-board Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, New Orleans. The lime mixed with gasoline and JP-8 jet fuel adds a colorful touch to the explosions.



Photo by PH2 Justin C. Proulx

NEW ORLEANS—AO2 Pete Moss prepares blasting caps rigged to C-4 for a pyrotechnic demonstration for the 2003 New Orleans Airshow held annually at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, New Orleans. "Each brick of C-4 utilizes enough power to blow a car to pieces," said Moss, while working with the highly explosive material.

Santa's whereabouts tracked with help of Reservists

LTJG Penny Cockerell
Navy Information Bureau Det. 1118

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.—With a view of Pikes Peak to the west and the brilliant yellow aspens outside, Naval Reservist LT Mike Lewis settles before a microphone at KRDO Peak 95.1 radio station, where he serves as station manager.

Though it was early October, Lewis has his sights set on Christmas, when the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) launches its annual 'NORAD Track Santa' program worldwide under the direction of Canadian Army Maj. Douglas Martin, NORAD Track Santa's project officer.

Lewis, a member of the Navy Information Bureau (NIB) Det. 1118 Fort Carson, Colo., has supported NORAD Track Santa in his civilian job for nearly 10 years. He now takes his involvement a step further by recording specialized public service messages for many of the ships at sea, under the guidance of Lewis' commanding officer, CAPT Chris Miller.

"We piloted this public service announcement to ships at sea last December," Miller said. "We received feedback from several carriers and from Armed Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS). With so many deployed ships this year, we want our Sailors to know where Santa is on Christmas Eve."

In its more than 50 years, the Santa tracking program has become the premiere spot for children, the media, and anyone else who wants to tune in and follow Santa's path from the North Pole to a neighborhood near them. The program spans the globe and is recorded in several languages.

A sophisticated Web site, along with continuous media reports on Christmas Eve, prompts thousands of phone calls from Santa trackers to NORAD's headquarters in Cheyenne Mountain where hundreds of volunteers answer their questions.

And it all begins with a simple message.

"Merry Christmas men and women of USS Dwight D. Eisenhower," Lewis enthusiastically bellows in his well-honed radio voice.

"Deep inside Cheyenne Mountain, we're tracking Santa's whereabouts Christmas Eve."

The announcement is customized for each aircraft carrier and many smaller ships, as well as AFRTS.

Lewis also recruited another voice from his station to play Santa. "What a great night for a sleigh ride," Santa says as jingle bells ring in the background.

This professional-quality recording will ensure U.S. Sailors have a chance to participate in NORAD Track Santa. They can correspond via e-mail and phone with family back home to encourage participation and track Santa's movements together in real time.

As part of NIB Det. 1118, Lewis' efforts are among several Reservists of the unit have undertaken to ensure NORAD Track Santa gets the widest exposure possible.

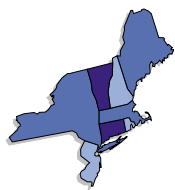
To view NORAD Track Santa's Web site near the holidays, go to www.norad-santa.org.

REDCOM ROUNDUP Compiled by JOC Cleve Hardman, Editor, Naval Reserve News Service



Photo by PH2 Aaron Peterson

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va.—BU2 Dan Vidoli, a Naval Reservist of Amphibious Construction Battalion 2 Det. 101, Manchester, N.H., tries to get a fix on attackers from his position near the front gate of his camp during Exercise DELMAR '03. The exercise is a Naval Reserve planned and executed exercise emphasizing humanitarian assistance operations.



REDCOM Northeast

BARNEGAT LIGHT, N.J.—Members of Civil Law Support Activity Det. 111 spent a recent drill weekend at a Coast Guard Station for a unique Naval Reserve Judge Advocate General/U.S. Coast Guard joint training exercise. The Naval Reserve unit provided legal assistance to Coast Guardsmen and, in turn, received excellent practical training on topics ranging from station operations to basic navigation. Unit members even got underway onboard the station's 41-foot utility boat.

—Civil Law Support Activity Det. 111



REDCOM Mid-Atlantic

LITTLE CREEK, Va.—Naval Reservists from 22 units assigned to Commander, Beach Group 2 recently participated in DELMAR '03. During the exercise, Reservists participated in Military Prepositioning Force operations using Landing Craft, Mechanized; Landing Craft, Utility; and Land-

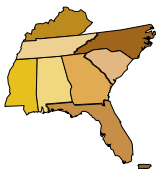
ing Craft, Air Cushioned. Also conducted were small unit fighting tactics, night 'wet well' boat operations, and foot and vehicular patrols.

—Naval Beach Group 2, Det. 206

BALTIMORE—Naval Reservists were quick to respond as surging floodwaters from tropical storm Isabel flooded Naval Reserve Center Baltimore. Reservists used damage control equipment to dewater spaces flooded by waters that spilled over sandbags piled three feet high.

CE2 Roland Broadfoot and EMCS Bob Johnston, both Reservists and master electricians in their civilian careers, were instrumental in checking the building's electrical circuits to ensure the facility was safe.

—Lt. Michael Cody, NIB Det. 102



REDCOM Southeast

GREENSBORO, N.C.—An anchor acquired from the decommissioned USS Sampson (DDG 10) now marks the entrance to Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center Greensboro, N.C. The anchor was acquired and restored by the Philadelphia Naval Business Center's chief petty officer association. Seabees built a platform for the display.

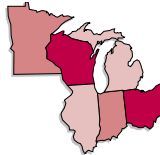
—NAVMARCORESCEN Greensboro public affairs

COLUMBUS, Ga.—One of the newest additions to Naval Reserve Cente, Columbus, Ga., is quickly making a difference. LT Desiree Lewis originally enlisted in the Navy as an undesignated seaman in 1990, but has worked through the ranks to earn a Doctorate in Dental Surgery and gain a commission. Since affiliating with her current unit, she has already improved dental readiness at the center to 77 percent.

—JO1(AW) Linda Willoughby, NAVRESCEN Columbus Public Affairs

PENSACOLA, Fla.—PN1 Elizabeth R. Scott of Naval Reserve Cente, Pensacola, Fla., recently received the 2003 Naval Enlisted Reserve Association Service to the Reservist Award. She serves as the leading petty officer for the center's personnel services, Reserve pay and manpower department. The customer service award is given annually to a Full Time Support Sailor who had the greatest impact in supporting drilling Reservists.

—REDCOM Southeast Public Affairs



REDCOM Mid-West

MINNEAPOLIS—The Meritorious Unit Commendation was presented to members of Naval Reserve, Commander U.S. Naval Forces Japan, Headquarters (CNFJ HQ) recently by RADM Robert C. Chaplin, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Japan. He cited the unit for meritorious service from January 2001 through June 2003.

During that period, members of CNFJ HQ served as key ambassadors of resolution, intimately involved in the recovery, return and closure of the Ehime Maru incident. The unit also assisted in efforts to close down a privately-owned incinerator operating in Atsugi, Japan, which presented a serious health hazard to Sailors and their families.

—Naval Reserve Center Minneapolis



REDCOM South

CAMP BULLIS, Texas—Exercise Alamo Pride at Camp Bullis, Texas, provided an opportunity for great training for members of Fleet Hospital Dallas. Combat casualty care, pre-hospital trauma life support, trauma nurse care, Reserve officer leadership, Mess Management Specialist training in field messing, security training, moulage, rough terrain cargo handling and driver training for military vehicles were among the course and training tracks offered. Participants earned more than 2,000 hours of continuing medical and

nursing education.

—LCDR J. Michael Smith, Fleet Hospital Dallas



You will make things better.



You live and work by certain ideals and standards every day. By serving part-time in the Naval Reserve, you can proudly give back to your country while gaining important career and life enriching experiences. To learn how you can become a valued member of our force, visit our Web site or give us a call.

www.navalreserve.com
1-800-USA-USNR

**NAVAL
RESERVE**
STAY STRONG

Naval Reservist Profile of the Month: Nurse Corps

Eighteen Naval Reservists have been selected for this year's and next year's Naval Reserve Recruiting advertisements in publications across the nation. Presented this month is the profile of LT Karen Horne, whose photo is featured above.

Name: Karen Horne
Rank: Lieutenant

What unit are you attached to?
Naval Medical Center Portsmouth Detachment O.

How long have you been in the Reserve?
January 2004 will be my fourth year.

What is your job in the Naval Reserve?
LT in the Nurse Corps, clinical coordinator. My unit plays an active role ensuring the medical readiness of our Reservists.

What interesting incidents have you been associated with in your civilian job?
Advances in medical technology are always fascinating.

What did you think when you were chosen for the Naval Reserve advertising campaign?
I was excited and could hardly wait to see the finished product.

What part was the most fun for you?
Watching how the whole photo shoot came together, and the technology behind it.